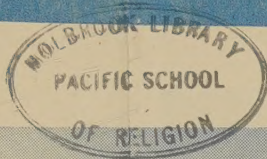


MEXICO



Two of the happy children taken care of by the Laura Temple Student Hostel. These two happen to be the children of one of the matrons.

"Mexico" Editor Resigns



Mrs. Jo Ann Chaffee, editor for two years, is shown with daughter, Susan, one of her reasons for resigning post; the other "reason" was born 17th, and has been named Judith Ann. She rejoices with the Chaffees, although it is losing an enthusiastic and effective

WE THANK YOU

We have had correspondence and contributions from the following people. (Contributions should be by check, because cash is risky and money orders difficult to cash.)

Clarence E. Miller, Willard Roberts, ton, Mrs. Seamon Rhea, Mrs. Virgil Benedict, Velma Bowser, Mrs. R. L. Krueger, Eleanor E. Kelleher, Mrs. Reid Ellerbe, Naomi Lisle, Mrs. A. L. Threlked.

Forest Ave. Junior Department, Mrs. Myron Yonder, Mrs. Ruth Grace, Mrs. L. M. Keef, M. E. Alston, Connie Howell, Miss Jacksey Miller, Grace S. Bruner, Mrs. Arthur Gould, Mrs. Elvira C. López, Mrs.

Ruth S. Morison, Mrs. Ernest Lindsay, Wayne Garrison.

Lennis Martin, Miss Lucy Davis, Marie B. McCoy, Miss Martha T. Mrs. John W. Savage, Mrs. Cecil E. Mrs. Harry S. McCleery, Miss Miller, Mary E. Hobson, Janet N. and Mrs. Duncan Gray, Mrs. How. Wentworth, Olive Givin, Eva C. Mrs. Harry W. Johnson, Mrs. B. Mantle, Mrs. L. W. Cole Mrs. I. Dickinson, Mrs. W. J. Buckley, Boyd, Earl Saunders, Edyth B. Dore E. Alexander.

"WHAT IS THE MISSION IN MEXICO?"

Over and over, this question comes up, asked by visitors, church officials, new acquaintances, and even by those who are working in the Mission. "What is the Mission to Mexico?" It would be nice if we could give a simple definition that would satisfy everyone.

The difficulty in finding an answer lies in the fact that the Mission is all things to all men. "In my father's house there are many mansions."

Physically, we have many buildings scattered around Mexico. Our building program is growing and repairs are constantly being made.

Legally, we are an Association Civil under the control of the Mexican Autonomous Church. Missionaries give their time and efforts on a purely voluntary basis due to the past unhappy circumstances which prevented the Mexican government to look upon all religious workers with suspicion.

Financially, most institutions are self-supporting with missionary dollars provided by workers and the extra aid which permits our institutions to help others through scholarships and subsidies.

In terms of staff, the aim of all missions is to train local leadership. We have a number of dedicated teachers, nurses, doctors, Christian educators, rural workers, and administrative personnel. Mexico is a wide open field for missionaries. This is a wide open field for missionaries.

The tangible work at present takes the form of day nurseries, a hospital, medical

clinics, boarding schools, a seminary, deaconess training, agricultural work, social centers, and religious education.

When all this has been said, however, the question "What is the Mission?" has not been answered. These things tell about the mechanism, and they tell what it does, but they cannot say what it is. For these activities are the externals, and they give only a partial picture of what the Mission is in meaning and in essence.

The Centers are a meeting place and a focal point for groups and associations whose aim is to create greater understanding of the true meaning of the Christian life.

When the Christ Spirit is alive in any person, whatever his kind of work may be, he becomes an inventive, searching, daring, self-expressing person. He disturbs, upsets, enlightens, and he opens ways for better understanding.

It is not enough to have thought great things before doing the work. The work of the moment is the important thing. It is not our buildings or our busyness that creates growth because in Christian living there is no beginning and no end in point of time.

Through Christianity mysterious bonds of understanding and of knowledge are established among men. The Mission is establishing these bonds, through the presentation of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of Life.

Joy de León.

New student home for Monterrey

By Evelyn Keim and Joyce Haberman.

We wish you would come to visit us here at the Student Hostel in Monterrey. It would not take long to show it to you; just a big, old, one-story rented house built in the Spanish style. It is wedged in between other houses. The front door opens right onto the sidewalk. The house has a tiny parlor, sitting room, four bedrooms, a dining room and a kitchen. In the back yard there is a temporary wooden building with three small rooms. Eighteen of us call these eleven small rooms our home away from home. Although we cannot offer very much in the line of physical comforts, we turned away many more girls than we accepted this year.

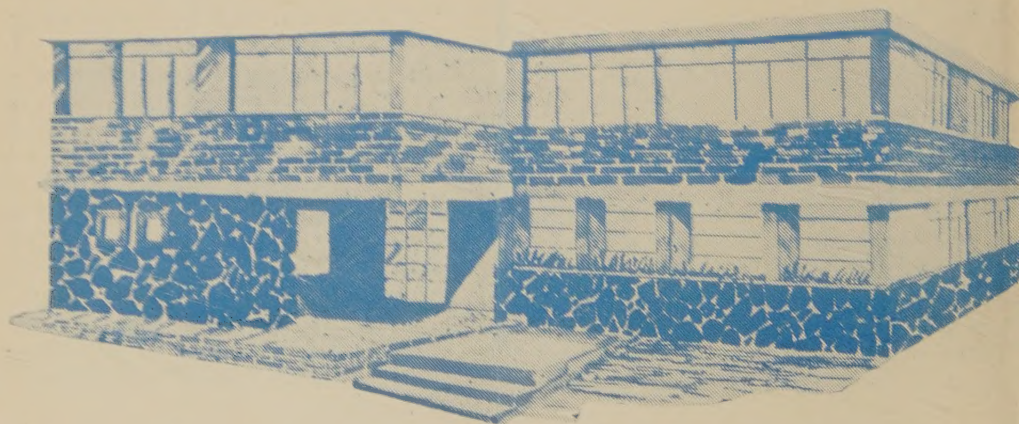
When we finish showing it to you, we could sit down, spread out the plans and discuss what the new hostel will be like. Last year we were able to purchase a lot that is almost one and a half times as big as the present one. The new lot is much better located for us since it is near Laurens Institute, which we are especially trying to serve, and to the Social Center, which serves us in many ways. The new house will be two stories high, with provisions made for adding a third floor in the future.

It will adequately house thirty girls' staff. It will boast of many conveniences which we now lack: an office, a separate reception room, a spacious dining room, laundry, a recreation room adequate for the girls and invited guests, inside corridors, bedrooms that are independent of each other, allowing for privacy and group facilities. It all sounds like a wonderful dream, but it is beginning to become reality.

On March 8 we had a ceremony the laying of the first stone. This is equivalent of ground breaking, in that it indicates the initiation of a building project. At this time a stone was placed in a base. When the inauguration takes place, a metal plaque will be added to make a miniature monument in our front garden.

The service was led by the pastor of our church, Rev. R. Pedro Rivera, Bishop Eleazar Guerra, assisted by the district superintendent, and the president of the Asociación Civil Mexicana de Cultura, Servicio Social, Mr. Benigno Elizondo, in the placing of the stone. After the service

(Cont. — page 4)



The welcome mat at the new Monterrey Hostel will soon be out.

FIFTH CONGRESS OF THE C. of L. A. M. W.

Miss Mamie Baird went with the Mexican delegates to the Congress. We asked her for a short statement about the Congress. Below, we have in her own succinct manner the main details. Her enthusiasm for the Congress and feeling for the growing unity of the Latin American countries are not here expressed. We hope later to print some of the minutes of the meeting and are looking forward to having the next Congress in Mexico.

Wath. Fifth Congress of the Confederation of Latin American Methodist Women.

WHERE: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Coleto Bennett.

WHO: Delegates from 9 Latin American countries and Miss Marian Derby from the United States.

Member countries of the Confederation are: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica,

Bolivia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay. For the first time in the history of the Confederation every member country sent delegates. Costa Rica and Panama sent one delegate each, the other countries four each as well as members of the Executive Committee. Delegates and visitors numbered 70.

WHEN: January 19-25, 1959.

WHY: To foment union among the women of the Latin American countries. To promote the evangelization of the Latin American countries.

THEME: Resources and Strategy for a World in Crisis.

PLANS: To bring into the Confederation the women of Cuba and Puerto Rico who do not now belong.

FUTURE: The next meeting, which will be the VI Congress, is to be held in Mexico City.



Delegates from nine Latin American countries who attended the Sixth Congress in Rio de Janeiro.

CENTRO MACDONELL, DURANGO

By Margaret Wade Campbell.



The author recently received her M. A. degree from Scarritt College in the field of Social Group Work.

Centro MacDonell began its work as a social center in 1922 under the direction of Miss Anne Deavours from the Women's Division of Christian Service. The Centro is still sponsored by the WDCS but is now, and has been for some time, under indigenous leadership.

The program reflects the needs of the community. It is not static; the program may change from time to time as the needs of the community change.

Durango is the capital of the state of the same name. It has a population of 112,355. There are great needs here and many opportunities for service. The Centro serves an average of 150 persons per month (not including the large groups which rent the auditorium and sports patio for meetings, etc.)

Staff at present is composed of the following people:

Srita. Olga Vela, Head Resident.

Miss Selma Reynolds, English teacher.

Miss Carrie Radcliffe, R. N., in charge of the clinic.

Srita. Hermilia Serrano, worker in Day Care Center.

Miss Margaret Wade Campbell, Social Group worker.

5 Auxilliary helpers.

The building is typical of the Colonial architecture for which Mexico is famous. From the street, it appears to be more than half a block of two-story yellow walls with big, barred windows and a large entrance (built to admit carriages) over which "Centro MacDonell" is carved in the stone. The building surrounds a lovely patio garden which is always cool and a delight to the eye.

The main focus of the Centro is toward social work in general. The emphasis is that the work is not so much on giving material goods to "needy" people as it is to help people in need to help themselves. To that end the means are made readily available so that the person himself may be in a position to solve his problem or problems without having to depend completely on others.

The emphasis is positive: activities



The wee folk are important in Centro MacDonell where activities are graded to their needs and abilities.

ered to develop interests and abilities of
ue in life, offer personal satisfaction in
owing how to do something, develop
olesome friendships, satisfy the need to
long, to be appreciated and esteemed.

In the program, some material things
e offered at token prices in order to help
nserve personal dignity and so that the
erson will not feel that it is charity.

In the Day Care Center they try to do
ore than provide just "care", but to help
e children to develop good habits of
giene, play, and social relationships.
nce a week the mothers meet with Srta.
ela. They learn to make things while they
cuss the problems of raising a family.

The Clinic Nurse is working closely
ith the Government Health officers and
eveloping a new and rewarding coopera-
ve spirit. As there is no provision at the
cal health center for eye examinations and
ere, Centro MacDonell is hoping to take
ver this work and are now establishing
contact with the local Lions Club to aid
supplying glasses.

The teaching of English plays an im-
portant part in the life of the Centro. The
ed for knowledge of the English language
felt throughout Mexico. There are over
0 students in the classes, the majority of
hom are not Protestant and this gives an
opportunity for broadening understanding
nd fellowship.

Clubs of different kinds for the young



Nurse Radcliffe's patient receives moral support
from little sister.

adults give an opportunity for social group
work in an atmosphere of rich experiences
and Christian kindness.

The Centro's three pianos are a bless-
ing to the talented who would have no
other means of practicing. The auditorium
is used by drama groups and the play
ground is a boon to nearby schools which
do not have any play space for the chil-
dren.

The Evangelical churches in Mexico
have a great challenge before them and a
great responsibility. Centro MacDonell is
one attempt to meet this challenge.

NEW STUDENT HOME FOR...

(Cont. from page 4)

small reception and presentation of the
ans was held in the Centro Social. It is
estimated that a hundred fifty people at-
tended.

The new building will be named Hogar
estudiantil (Student's Home). It will be
uilt in memory of Miss Dora Z. Schmidt,
e greatly beloved and respected director
om 1939-57, since she made the home
hat it is today.

This hostel is a little known project of
e W. D. C. S. It was started in 1919 as

the boarding department of a girl's schools.
It has gone through several metamorphoses.
In the last twenty years it has served
Protestant and some Roman Catholic girls
who have come to Monterrey to study in
the various educational institutions concen-
trated here.

For them it has supplied a Christian
environment in which each could develop
physically, mentally, morally and spiritually.
The present expansion is being made pos-
sible by gifts from the Week of Prayer
and Self-Denial offerings of last October,
which should personalize it for many of you.

Ex-Crusade Scholar Honored

Srita. Olga Vela is in her third year as director of the Centro MacDonell, Durango, Mexico. Srita. Vela, originally from Monterrey, received her Master of Arts degree, in Social Group Work, after studying at Scarritt and Peabody in Nashville, Tennessee, with a summer at Westminster Choir College, in Princeton, N. J.

Srita. Vela, along with six others, was chosen from among 11,000 former Crusade Scholars scattered in fifty-nine countries to be spotlighted in **METHODIST WOMAN** (Feb. 1959). The article reviewed the work of the Crusade Scholarship program during the 12 years since its inception.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SALTILLO?

by **Faith Richardson.**

There have been many encouraging events, recently, in both the church and Centro Social Roberts. When we think of all of God's blessings, we have much cause for rejoicing and for wanting to tell about some of the outstanding things that have been taking place here.

January eighth was a red-letter day for the church, for on that date the new Hammond organ arrived. After collecting money for fifteen years, the congregation is really thrilled to have this superior musical instrument to aid in the worship services.

Last summer, an American tourist donated money to buy some new song books, which are also a great help for the singing.

The church has been redecorated, the annex has had extensive repairs, a new side-walk, of especially-made tiles has been completed in front of the church building, and many minor repairs have been made. The old corner-stone, which was lying unused at the back of the church, now serves as a base for the solid, new flag pole, situated beside the front steps.

Much to the surprise and delight of the Methodist people, a tract of land, one thousand square meters has been donated

by Sr. Ismael Garza T., of Monterrey, to build a new church. This land is in a new subdivision, which is north of the city on Highway to Monterrey, and is quite valuable.

The Sunday School has an average attendance of over one hundred. The young people have been meeting regularly, have had quite a few projects. For Christmas, under the guidance of Sra. Vasquez, the Pastor's wife they gave a drama, then prepared one for Easter. After the Sunday afternoon meetings, they like to go to the Social Center for recreation.

The women meet regularly every Monday and are always engaged in some useful work for the church. Occasionally, they have their meetings at the Social Center and enjoy a social time together.

It is gratifying to know that the financial matters are paid up to date and the pastor, Sr. Pedro Vasquez, has recently had his salary increased a hundred pesos a month.

Our church will be the meeting place for the National Convention of Evangelical Churches which is to be held in August.

At the Centro Social Roberts, we

ere is much to encourage us, this year. There are twenty-four choice young ladies, from all over the state of Coahuila, who make their home with us in order to attend various schools of the city. They seem to be enjoying the beautiful building and all the privileges which they find here. Srita. Gomez teaches their Sunday School class and Bible Study three times a week, after study hours. The girls gave a hundred pesos toward the cost of the new organ. Only five of them are Protestants. To us it seems that our greatest responsibility is to train the character of these lovely girls who live with us. If we can help to point them to Christ, it will be the fulfillment of our purpose here. We are trying to cooperate with the church and to make some impact for good upon the many lives with whom we come in daily contact. There is promise of a great future for this institution, and for the church in this city of Saltillo. We have been very pleased to have some gifts to help with the furnishings of this new building. The Alumnae of the Colegio Roberts donated money for the electric light fixtures for all the rooms. We

were given money from Cash Supplies, through the Woman's Division of Christian Service, for a new refrigerator, which was badly needed. A friend from Monterrey gave a record player and another friend donated many splendid records for it. Srita. Gomez was able to buy a used player-piano, which has been a great joy to the girls. They spend a great deal of time in the recreation room, playing the piano or listening to the radio.

Since many of the churches in the United States are studying Mexico we have been requested to send information. We appreciate the pictures and special tokens of their interest.

Since Saltillo is on the main highway to Mexico, we have had quite a few visitors, both Mexicans and Americans. Some of them were good Methodist people who were anxious to find out about the work we are doing here.

The English Classes continue to attract quite a number of students. We teach individuals during the day and the various groups from six to nine o'clock at night. There are over 200 enrolled now.

MEXICO'S MALITA

by Robert Conerly.

Hector "Malita" Torres shows the glove which he received from the movie star Red Skelton, after he pitched the Monterrey Little League Team to the World Championship.

Baseball fans all over Latin America were thrilled last year by the achievements of Malita and his teammates. For the second successive year the world championship was won by the Little League team from Monterrey, Mexico.

The father of Hector is a famous baseball player himself. He is Epitacio Torres, called "Mala" by the fans. He is now playing with the team at Puebla. This is where Hector got his name "Malita". His father has no doubt shown him some of the fine points of the game.

The accomplishments of Hector last year now seem almost impossible to him.



Look what he did in Mexico City to lead his team to the national championship: allowed only one hit to the Maya League as Monterrey won 14-0. Again look what he did in Mexico City to win the Latin American championship for his team: allowed Venezuela only one hit as his team won 2-0. Malita was the pitcher for Monterrey in two of the three championship games at Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

In the game with Hawaii Malita almost accomplished the dream of all baseball pitchers. His coach, señor Jose Martinez, said he did just that in pitching a "no hit, no run" game. The officials allowed an error to be called a hit, according to the coach, thus preventing Malita from recording the feat.

In the last game for the championship against Kankakee, Illinois, Malita again allowed only one hit as Monterrey won 10-1. In the four championship games which he pitched he allowed the opposition to get only four hits and one run. "Malita is a good little pitcher" says his coach, señor Martinez. What would you say?



"Malita" is seated between ex-Bishop Rolando Zapata and the local pastor, Rev. Raúl Ríos (who passed away in January).

you would never know Malita had had all the honors bestowed upon him from his humble, unassuming way. His calm, humble, and polite manner tells something about

CENTRO CRISTIANO CHIHUAHUA

by Irene M. Nixon.

Centro Cristiano was established in 1919 with the aim of serving the social needs of Chihuahua.

The Centro has gone through many stages of growth and at present, due to local demand, the commercial academy is the greatest field of action.

As we evaluated our program, we saw a need to return to more social activity. After earnest prayer and discussion among our leaders, we decided to raze the old buildings and reconstruct them with the aim of broadening our scope of activities. The Church, which is only a block away, has no adequate place for their social activity.



This gives an idea of how the new Auditorium gymnasium of Centro Cristiano in Chihuahua looks.

ies so they have enthusiastically aided and abetted us.

The result of all this is a new day nursery and a gym (combination auditorium and general meeting room) with kitchen attached. We have space, and plans, but no money for the construction of housing for the staff who will give life to the buildings.

There is a real need and challenge for Christian social work. Our Mexican youngsters are eager to learn and we have many prospective leaders among them who need encouragement and demonstration. We need clubs, scouts, and programs to meet these needs. With the Lord's help, Centro Cristiano plans to meet these needs.

This goes out to you with the prayer that the Lord will touch the hearts of a young couple interested in group work. We need a man to work with the boys and men who come to our doors in search of a fuller life.



Sr. J. Gutiérrez T., the architect, and Srita, Jose-fina Flores G. stand with the 1959 graduating class on the bleachers in process of construction.

A SILVER JUBILEE

by Mary N. Pearson.

Twenty five years of service in the same location is a record worthy of recognition, especially when it has shown such worthwhile results.

Twenty-five years ago, on March second, Miss Mamie Baird arrived in fatal Cortazar, alone and unknown, ready to serve in this difficult field.

Through the years her friendly and helpful spirit has won the respect of the people of the community and the love and appreciation of the folks in the church.

In 1934 the church consisted of a one-room, medium-sized edifice. The membership was two adults and three children. In 1959 the membership has grown to 50 adults and 40 children. The buildings have increased in number and size.

Mamie Baird is responsible for this obvious growth but even more, she is respons-

ible for the infiltration of Christian principles throughout the district. She has served as pastor, director of social work, teacher, counselor, plumber, hostess, and a light to the Bajio, the bread basket of Mexico.

In 1944 a house was acquired, with money given through missionary offerings. It has been home and social center for the church and community. This center has been the scene of many a festivity as well as a study room for classes of English, piano practice, and sewing. It is the meeting place for the Children's League and for a Daily Vacation Church School. It has even been used at times as a dormitory. The children enjoy the swings and slide in the patio and some of the grownups have been seen on them too.

The clinic, established in 1956, is open five days a week and serves scores of poor

folks some of whom can pay only a small fee and others nothing. One afternoon a week Miss Baird and the nurse set up a clinic in Sutchitlan. They both make many home calls. A little room in the rear of the Center has been specially fixed up for sick people who need the nurse's constant care.

Not only the work of the church and Center, but also home visitations and special projects with the women and children, Christian counseling, and availability to meet any and all needs, fill the life of this dedicated and energetic lady.

Many a young person has been encouraged and helped to higher education. Miss Beard likes to talk about "her" teachers, nurses, deaconesses, and pastors. And they delight in talking about "their" god-mother. There is no end to the amount of love, time, money, and energy given freely and joyfully to the service of the Lord.

On her 25th anniversary the young people and Women's Society of Cortazar went all out to show their appreciation.

There was a very impressive service in a beautifully decorated church with words: "XXV Anniversario Mamie Baird" in sparkling letters on the front wall. The program consisted of a choral service, Bible reading, prayers, a very effective and preciative address by the Rev. José O. Lasco, several testimonials by members of the church, and the presentation of a bouquet of flowers and a silver medal with name and the date on one side and part of the eighth verse of Psalm 46. I delight to do thy will O God" engraved in Spanish on the other.

After the church service, a happy time was spent in the Center, with music, games, and the serving of **buñuelo** and **atole**. This was a joyful occasion to round off twenty-five years of service in the Master's Vineyard in Cortazar.

Our prayer for Mamie Baird is "May the Lord bless and keep thee always."

(Miss Pearson is a retired missionary giving volunteer service in Cortazar.)

HERE'N THERE

Dr. Irma Highbaugh and Miss Ellen Studley, both former missionaries in China, were visitors during Annual Conference. Dr. Highbaugh, who served 32 years in China, having worked for the past eight years with the International Missionary Council in eight countries of Southeast Asia, spoke to the delegates at the 29th Annual Assembly of Women's Missionary Societies in Mexico City.

Miss Studley gave a devotional message to the missionaries meeting.

* * *

Dr. and Mrs. Robert F. Thomas spent several days in Mexico City in March. Dr. Thomas, who is also a minister, is director of Pittman Center, a Methodist mission in the Smoky Mountains of Eastern Tennessee.

* * *

Mrs. Alice Rentz and Mrs. E. O. Anderson spent an interesting week in Mexico. Mrs. Rentz who has been travelling around the world visiting mission stations, kindly gave several talks with her slides. We hope that the visit to Mexico will aid in interpreting needs to the many committees and boards on which Mrs. Rentz serves.

* * *

Dr. James E. Ellis, Executive Secretary of Latin America, Dr. James K. Matthews, Executive Secretary of the Division of World Missions, and Bishop Ralph Rader, president of the Division, were visitors to the Annual Conference in January.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Conerly's third son, Charles Michael, (they have one daughter) was born March 17th which makes, his "twin" of Judith Ann Chaffee.

* * *

On Holy Thursday, a group met at Union Seminary for a re-enactment of the Last Supper. While eating roast lamb, bitter herbs, fruits and unleavened bread, along with grape juice, they listened to Bible portions read in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

* * *

The department of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches has been re-activated with the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Jiro Mizuno as directors. Mrs. Mizuno is the former Rosenda Báez-margo).

Recently they spearheaded the organization of an institute on nonprojected visual aids. C.A.V.E. (Evangelical Audio-Visual Center) sponsored the two-day program, which was held at the Baptist Seminary. Registration reached 120.

* * *

The Union Seminary is beginning its 42nd year while the Methodist School for Deaconesses begins its 55th. Bishop Eleazar Guerra spoke at a special service, inaugurating the school year.

* * *

Pedro Navarro, past-president of the Methodist Youth Fellowship in Balderas Church, was one of 15 graduate engineers to enjoy an expense-paid trip to inspect harbor installations in Houston and New Orleans and electrification and irrigation projects at Norris Dam and Kingston, Tennessee. They also visited the Museum of Atomic Energy at Oak Ridge.

The Federal Electrification Commission of Mexico sponsored the venture in international cooperation.

* * *

Srita. Carmen Dávila, a deaconess with more than 25 years of service, was elected



The alumnae of the Methodist School for Deaconesses met for lunch one day during Annual Conference. At the center table appear Miss Gertrude Arbogast, director, and Miss Ruth V. Warner, treasurer, of the School.

to serve as General Secretary of the Federation of Woman's Societies in the Central Conference, for this quadrennium, succeeding Srita. Marina Solís Estrada, who is on furlough this year.

Sra. Ana D. de Romero López was re-elected president for the period.

* * *

Miss Emma Eldredge, who served in Chihuahua from 1921 to 1955, returned there for a six-weeks stay last fall, just in time to "strengthen the hand" of Miss Nixon, present director of Centro Cristiano, in the building program.

* * *

Miss Ruth Byerly, who gave 33 years of Christian service to Mexico, has just concluded a six-months visit to various stations, where she lent a helping hand to over-worked staff. Teaching English in the Monterrey Social Center, and helping Deaconess Soledad Silva prepare the Christmas program in the little church of Cuauhtémoc, Chihuahua, were two highpoints.

* * *

General and Mrs. Wilfred Kitching, International Leaders of the Salvation Army,

were in Mexico the first part of April. It is the first visit ever made by the top-ranking official of the Army to Mexico. To take advantage of the visit a class of 14 cadets were commissioned under the "Calvary" flag, a Salvation Army flag once taken by General William Booth to the Holy Land.

MEXICO'S MALITA...

his character which makes him a real champion.

Methodists in Mexico should be especially proud that this most outstanding young athlete is an active member of the Church. Malita can be seen almost every Sunday at the Methodist Church in Monterrey. At the General Conference he was presented an award by Bishop Zapata in recognition of his accomplishments. A

Malita is now studying at Laurens Institute in Monterrey where his grandfather, Dr. Marroquin, is director of the school. When he finishes his schooling at Laurens Malita hopes to attend some school in the United States, and after that, to be a Major League Baseball player. And we believe he will do just that.

Thousands Celebrate Juárez's Birthday

March 21st the birthday of Benito Juárez, the man who was president of Mexico 100 years ago, and is credited with opening the doors to Protestantism, is always celebrated gratefully by Protestants. In a mass meeting which stops traffic along the main thoroughfare in downtown Mexico City, thousands march, carry daring banners, and listen to inflamed speakers.

In the little town of Cuautla (in the home-state of Reformer Emiliano Zapata,) when a group of citizens got together to prepare their celebration of Juárez's birthday, they asked Rev. Miguel Martínez, the local Methodist pastor to be master of ceremonies.



Students from our Velasco Institute in Querétaro lead the parade, with students from the Methodist Institute in Puebla behind them.

CHRISTIANS IN ACTION

FRANCISCO E. ESTRELLO

On December 31, 1958, Mr. Hazael T. Marroquin retired as Executive Secretary of the Bible Society of Mexico. He left an outstanding service record of 37 years. Before leaving the work, Mr. Marroquin sent the American Bible Society the names of persons who could substitute him as secretary. The American Bible Society after studying the reports submitted on each of the likely candidates, decided upon Professor Francisco E. Estrello.

Francisco E. Estrello —teacher, minister, author— was born in Matehuala, San Luis Potosí on November 29, 1907. After primary and secondary studies in his home town, he went on to graduate from the Instituto Mexicano Madero (Methodist) in the city of Puebla. Later on he studied at the Union Seminary in Mexico City.

He has visited the larger part of the Spanish-speaking countries lecturing on different subjects. He has also written several books whose English titles are: **YOUTH FACES LOVE AND MARRIAGE**, **Brief Story of the Life of Christ**, **BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PROTESTANT REFORMATION** and several books of poems. Two books of his have not yet been translated; one has poems for children.

He is also a frequent contributor to the different newspapers and periodicals. In 1940 he was awarded first prize in the national wide contest sponsored by the Department of Public Education of Mexico for his

literary work on the theme "Hymn of Peace."

At present, besides being in charge of the Bible Agency, he is undertaking with great enthusiasm the translation and preparation of new ways to study the Scriptures.

This inspiring and challenging enterprise —The Bible Society— has come a long way since 1824 when John C. Brigham, the first Bible agent, set foot in Mexico.

The Bible Society has its offices in Ganete 5. It has Bibles, New Testament and other portions of Scriptures in Spanish as well as in other languages and dialects. But the most important work which the Bible Society has carried out has been the translation of several portions of the Scriptures in the Mexican indigenous dialects —28 to date.

Since 1927 it has been the custom of the Bible Society to give a copy of the Bible to the president of the Republic. Among those who have been recipients of such a gift have been Gen. Plutarco, Elias Calles, General Lázaro Cárdenas, General Manuel Avila Camacho, Lic. Miguel Alemán, Dn. Adolfo Ruiz Cortines and Lic. Adolfo López Mateos.

Mr. Estrello's qualifications, talents and dedication can only mean greater heights and fields of service for a gospel-hungry society.

Mary Lou Santillán

DIRECTORY

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